

San Juan church of Christ

1414 Hawk Parkway, Unit C
Montrose, CO 81401 | (970) 249-8116

What Does God's Word Say About...

Government and Christian Responsibilities

Christians living in a representative republic enjoy the privileges of freedom, which also incur serious responsibilities. It is appalling that many Christians in this nation do not vote for candidates who most likely would honor the will of God. We must measure candidates by our Christian standards. Since most who aspire for public office are not Bible Christians, we must choose the candidates who are closest to the standards of God's word. We should consider the practices that government officials currently debate: homosexuality (Lev. 18:22, 20:13; Romans 1:24-27; 1 Cor. 6:9-11), abortion (Ex. 21:22-24; Psm. 139:13-16), divorce (Matt. 19:4-6; Romans 7:2-3) sexual immorality and pornography (Romans 13:13; 1 Cor. 6:15-16, 18), and capital punishment (Romans 13:3-4), as well as others. Who can deny that all of these involve deep spiritual principles? Our Lord, through the apostle Paul, commanded that "those who continue in sin, rebuke in the presence of all, so that the rest also will be fearful of sinning" (1 Timothy 5:20). How can we obey God's word if we remain silent about these fundamental issues?

Many faithful servants of God instructed government officials regarding such issues. Nathan rebuked David for adultery and murder (2 Sam. 12:1-15). John the Baptist spoke against Herod's improper marriage relationship (Matt. 14:1-4). Paul warned Felix about his immoral conduct (Acts 24:25). Modern Christians can imitate these examples by public statements, by letters to elected officials, and by our vote.

The apostle Paul often appealed to his rights as a Roman citizen for his protection against an abusive government (Acts 22:24-29, 25:10-12). Why should American Christians not likewise seek to protect ourselves from evil by exercising our right to vote?

We must remember "That the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind, and bestows it [government] on whom He wishes, and sets over it [government] the lowliest of men" (Daniel 4:17). People get the kind of government they deserve. We must be the righteous remnant that gives God a good reason to bless and preserve our nation (Romans 9:27). Remember, if God could have found a righteous remnant He would have spared Sodom and Gomorrah. Not finding that remnant, God had no option but to destroy those wicked cities (Gen. 19:24).

As Christians we must conduct ourselves as the salt of the earth, the light of the world, a city set on a hill (Matt. 5:13-16). God has bestowed on us a stewardship and as His servants we must faithfully discharge our duties (1 Cor. 4:2)

Please send any comments, questions, or requests for a Bible study to:
info@sanjuanchurchofchrist.org